

STATE SENATOR • MARK SCHAUER • 19TH DISTRICT

Schauer Press Release



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Schauer, Senate Democrats Fight to Protect Paychecks, Families, and Jobs

Republican majority votes to take away overtime, ignore outsourcing

LANSING—Senate Democrats today rose in strong opposition to Republican efforts to chip away at the recently passed minimum wage increase. A provision in the minimum wage law that passed this spring would allow overtime beginning October 1 for a number of workers who do not currently receive it. House Bill 6213, a bill crammed through the Senate today, will rob them of the opportunity.

“Denying workers overtime sends exactly the wrong message to thousands of hardworking employees who we want to stay in Michigan and help bring back our economy,” said Sen. Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek). “I fear that today’s action is only the first of many attacks on the new minimum wage law.”

Democrats noted that the questions that businesses are now raising about the changes in overtime expected to take place October 1 are the result of the Senate rushing the original minimum wage bill through the legislative process without holding proper hearings. They pointed out that today’s bill was also not vetted through the committee process, and that many legal questions regarding the bill still need to be addressed.

“Republicans in Lansing ran the Legislature today like a four-alarm fire, and it’s Michigan workers who are getting burned,” said Schauer.

Democrats also requested a vote today on two Democratic resolutions calling for an end to tax breaks to companies that outsource jobs overseas, and to prevent taxpayer dollars from being spent on companies that outsource the work. Both efforts failed when Republicans in the Senate unanimously opposed them.

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Mark Schauer is the Senate Democratic Floor Leader. He represents the 19th Senate District, which includes all of Calhoun County and most of Jackson County.